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As indicated

DEVELOPMENTS IN USSR FORESTRY, TIMBER, PAPER AND WOOD-PROCESSING IN STRIES, JUNE 1953

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

USSR

Timber floating has been in progress since the first days of spring in all timber-felling regions of the country. Millions of cubic meters of timber, felled in the basins of the Severnaya Dvina, Pechora, Vychegda, Kama, Ob', Amur, and many other rivers, are forwarded to their destinations by waterway. About 65 percent of all timber felled in the USSR is hauled to timber-floating rivers. In some areas of the northern and eastern USSR, floating is the principal means by which timber reaches its consumers.

The timber industry and water transport workers face the important economic task of floating all felled timber effectively, quickly, and with minimum expenditures of labor and materials. All this timber is urgently needed by the great construction projects, sawmills, paper factories, the mining industry, agriculture, and many other branches of the national economy.

Felling and floating methods are being improved and modernized from year to year. More and more, the timber industry is being transformed into a mechanized and highly developed branch of the national economy. On or along the timber-floating rivers, a great amount of rodern equipment such as cranes, winches, and steam and motor ships is in operation.

Timely preparation for and organized initiation of spring floating operations have resulted in fulfillment and exceeding of the plan in some regions of the country. Floating operations have been fully completed on 1,700 rivers.

Floating workers of the Karelo-Finnish SSR fulfilled the plan for April and May 133 percent, Workers of Lenles (Leningrad Timber) and Gor'klesosplav (Gor'kiy Timber Floating) trusts delivered twice as much timber to final points

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during these 2 months as during the same period of 1952. Workers of Ob'lesosplav (Ob' Timber Floating) and Irtyshlesosplav (Irtysh Timber Floating) trusts completed floating on small rivers in half the usual time.

For the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR as a whole, the April-May plan for delivery of timber to final points was fulfilled 103 percent. During these 2 months, the national economy of the country received from floating operations 5 million more cubic meters of timber than during the same period of 1952.

However, the spring period was only the initial period for floating operations. Workers of the timber industry still face the task of providing the national economy with five times as much timber as they delivered during the spring period.

Two negative factors still prevent effective carrying out of timber floating operations: shortage of workers and timber losses in transit.

Local soviets are charged with providing floating organizations with an adequate number of seasonal workers. While local soviets in the Belorussian SSR, Komi ASSR, and Molotovskaya Oblast have done well in providing thousands of local kolkhoz workers as temporary workers on the timber-floating rivers and at the log jam areas, there are many regions with an acute shortage of labor forces. In Arkhangel'skaya Oblast, for example, only one third of the seasonal workers needed for floating operations were provided. In adjoining Vologodskaya Oblast, there is still a shortage of about 4,500 floating workers. Local soviets in Kirovskaya, Kostromskaya, and Tyumenskaya oblasts have also done little to aid the floating organizations.

Almost 60 percent of all timber floated by enterprises of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR is formed into rafts or loseled on barges and then moved on navigable rivers by tugs of the shipping companies of the Ministry of Ocean and Laland Shipping USSR.

Most shipping companies are handling timber shipments better than they did in 1952. They fulfilled the April - May plan for towing of rafts 102.6 percent. But rafts are still wrecked sometimes with consequent losses of timber. For example, the steam tug "Akademik Bardin" of the Volga Freight Steamship Company, towing a timber raft from the mouth of the Kerzhenets River, ran the raft on a sand bar with consequent loss of 2,000 cubic meters of timber. The Kama River steam tug "Pyatiletka" was also involved in a serious wreck while towing a timber raft. Such wrecks of timber rafts were so frequent during April and May that 100,000 cubic meters of t! ber were lost during the 2-mc ath period.

All timber industry, floating organization, and water transport workers should consider it a matter of honor to carry out timber floating effectively, so as to satisfy fully the needs of the national economy for timber and timber products.(1)

Output of cardboard in the USSR is now ten times as great as it was in pre-Soviet times. Some individual factories now produce more cardboard than the entire industry did in Tsarist days.(2)

Tekhnikums of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry USSR are graduating about 4,000 specialists at the end of this school year. After passing their examinations, several thousand of these graduates will be employed in productive work in lespromkhozes (timber managements) and other enterprises.(3)

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Karelo-Fimish SSR

The following table shows percentage fulfillment of the second-quarter 1953, May 1953, and June 1953 plans for timber haulage by timber trusts of the Ministry of Timber and Paper Industry Karelo-Pinnish SSR:

	1 Jun (4)		10 Jun (5)		20 Jun (6)	
Trust	2đ Qu	May	2d Qu	Jun	2d Qu	Jun
Segezhles (Segezha Timber)	66.3	112.6	78.3	29.1	90.9	<u></u> 59 . 8
Medvezh'yegorskles (Med- vezh'yegorsk Timber)	65.3	108.1	80.2	35.3	95-5	71.4
Zapkarelles (Western Karelian Timber)	63.0	101.3	75.6	30.6	88.3	61.7
Sevkarelles (Northern Karelian Timber)	62.9	99•3	72.9	24.6	86.4	57.8
Yuzhkarelles (Southern Karelian Timber)	60.5	97.6	73.3	30.6	86.2	61.8
Ministry as a whole	62.9	102.1	75.1	29.6	88.2	61.4

RSFSR

In Irkutskaya Oblast, resources of mature and overmature forest stands alone exceed 6 billion cubic meters of timber. The timber industry of the oblast is well equipped with modern equipment and has a large number of machines at its disposal. During the postwar period, the amount of timber felled in the oblast has almost doubled and the amount sent outside the oblast has more than doubled. Production of lumber has increased considerably, and the amount of rosin collected is now seven times as great as before the war. (3)

SOURCES

- 1. Moscow, Izvestiya, 17 Jun 53
- 2. Moscow, Lesnaya Promyshlennost', 9 Jun 53
- 3. Ibid., 6 Jun 53
- 4. Petrozavodsk, Leninskoye Znamya, 4 Jun 53
- 5. Ibid., 14 Jun 53
- 6. Ibid., 25 Jun 53

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